

5th Sunday of Lent - 17th March 2024



Heart speaks to heart

As we approach Holy Week, the readings begin to point towards Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. His sacrifice was a sacrifice of love, done to reconcile us with God. It is through his sacrifice, that we now live in the new covenant between God and humanity. In the first reading, God tells the prophet Jeremiah, *"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."*

Through Jesus, a new covenant is formed. One that is not ruled by strict adherence to laws and regulations, but rather one that is based on living in the love of God. The Lord says that he will write the covenant on our hearts. For the Lord to insist on writing it on our hearts, he implies that this covenant will be extremely personal and intimate.

As Christians, we are called into a deep relationship and friendship with God. St. John Henry Newman's motto was *"Cor ad cor loquitur"*, or *"Heart speaks unto heart."* He fully understood the depths and importance of what it means to be in an intimate relationship with God. Do we likewise, try to foster a personal relationship with Christ? Jesus' life, death and resurrection, forever changed the way we go to God in prayer. Let us strive to go to him, and bear our heart to him, that we may be able to grow deeper in our relationship with the Lord.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207 - 502320

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207 - 502196

Deacon Chris Callan

Deacon Shaun McGee

Deacon David Westgarth (Retired)

General Notices Around the Partnership

Partnership - Sacrament of Reconciliation: St Patrick's, Consett; Saturday after 10am Mass. Our Lady and St Joseph's Brooms on Saturday's before the 5.30pm Vigil Mass 4.45pm-5.15pm.

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound, and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact their parish priest Fr. Tom for St Mary's and OLOR and Fr John for St Patrick's, St Pius and The Brooms.

Mass Intentions: Just to remind parishioners that Mass intentions need to be requested at least '3 months' beforehand. If not using the Mass envelopes provided could you please remember to name the church in which you would like the Mass said.

The Gospel according to St. Mark: Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 6.45pm to begin at 7.00pm. Come and join us for a full reading of Mark's Gospel during Holy Week. A chance to reflect on the whole story of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We also need volunteer readers, each taking one chapter of the Gospel. Please email shaun.d.mcgee@btopenworld.com.

The Divine Mercy Celebration: will take place on Sunday 7th April at St Mary's (Our Blessed Lady Immaculate) Church Blackhill DH8 8PQ. The celebration will begin at 2.30pm. Light refreshments (Tea and Coffee) will be served in the Kennedy Centre afterwards. Further details of the Celebration will be placed in parishes throughout the partnership during the coming weeks. Julie Brown and Kathleen Carroll are the named people organising this.

Partnership Mass for Marriage and Family Life: Deacon Rob Wareing, Diocesan Coordinator for Marriage Preparation and Care, is coming to preach at a Mass for Marriage and Family Life on Saturday 20th April, 10am at St. Patrick's Consett. All from the Partnership are welcome to attend this celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage and thanksgiving for Family Life.

Dates for your Diary: Carfin Grotto - Wednesday 15th May. Holy Island - Saturday 27th July. More details to follow.

Around The Diocese

The Source Returns at St Mary's Cathedral Newcastle: Thursday March 21st from 7pm onwards. If you have a teenage son or daughter who would like to attend The Source a 29 seat bus has been booked at the cost of £5 per person. A letter will be sent out from St Bedes School this week.

Job Vacancies: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:
HR Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time. Closing date: 28 March
Cleaner, St Cuthbert, Durham, 10 hours a week. Closing date: 15 March
Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

St Mary's News

Collection: This week – Easter Flowers Next week - Holy Places

Lately Deceased: Peter Murphy and Catherine Hester. Please pray for them and their Families at this sad time.

Legion of Mary: Will say the Rosary and Legion Prayers on Tuesday Evenings at 6pm.

Breakfast Club: After Sunday Mass. Tea, Coffee, toast, bacon and sausage sandwiches.

Appeal for new members of our Parish Hall Committee: To all those who have recently or will

be retiring and have some time to spare, would you like to consider stepping forward to become a member of our parish Hall committee? If so please contact Fr Tom.

Need of Support: If you are in need of support from the SVP Society please put your name and telephone number in a sealed envelope marked SVP and place it through St Mary's presbytery door. A member of the SVP will contact you.

Welcome Thursday: Although we offer a healthy 3 course meal to all our guests it was not set up necessarily to feed those in need. The majority of our guests are not in this category. We offer a meeting place for all age groups to come and spend time & make new friends in a comfortable friendly environment. For some of our guests it is the only time they leave their homes during the week and they look forward to coming. We can also arrange transport for anyone who needs it.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week – Church Flowers Next week: Holy Places

Divine Mercy Devotions: The Divine Mercy Devotions are held every Thursday at 3pm.

Piety: Special orders of statues of St Theresa The Little Flower and Our Lady of Lourdes have arrived. Also a wide variety of St Patrick's Day cards, Easter Cards and Birthday Cards. Please come along after Mass and browse.

Easter Coffee Morning and Raffle: We are having a Coffee and Breakfast Morning after 9.15am Mass on Easter Sunday, 31st March. Donations of chocolate and wine would be greatly appreciated to use as raffle prizes. Raffle tickets are on sale at the back of the church after Mass. Any donations can be brought to the presbytery on a Monday, Thursday or Friday.

Holy Infant of Prague: Items associated with The Holy Infant of Prague Devotion will be on sale after 9.30am Mass on Sundays at St. Patrick's, Consett at the front of the church.

Lenten Soup Lunches: This year the soup lunches will be on each **Friday** in Lent following Stations of the Cross. Come into St Patrick's Hall for a bowl of delicious homemade soup, tea/coffee and a chat. All proceeds go to CAFOD and St Patrick's Church. Donations of home made soup would be gratefully received.

February 300 Club Winners:

£20 No 123 Maria Robinson £15 No 176 Josie McMenammin £10 No 33 Joan Wilson

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – Church Flowers Next week: Holy Places

Collections: The collection for Church Flowers raised £80. Thank you for your generosity.

People's Kitchen: Thank you for your continued donations of coppers and small change which is forwarded to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Your donations can be deposited in the named tin at the back of the church. A recent receipt and thank you letter, from the People's Kitchen, can be found on the noticeboard at the back of church.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Church Flowers Next week: Holy Places

Lately Deceased: Teresa Akers. Please pray for her and her Family at this sad time.

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 25th March 2024 at 6pm

Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent at 6.30pm

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: Wednesday at 10am. Tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards.

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45pm - 6.45pm

Children's Liturgy: is held on the first Sunday of every month.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week – Easter Flowers Next week - Holy Places

Ushaw College - 2024

Easter Crafts: Friday 29th March - no booking required

Woodland Wednesday: 3rd April - pre-booking required

Pirate Adventure: Thursday 4th, Friday 5th, Monday 8th, Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th April - pre - booking required.

Family Willow Weaving: Thursday 11th April, pre - booking required.

Forest Friday: 12th April, pre-booking required.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Frank O'Keefe, Canon Joseph Lawrence Hollis, Mary (Mollie) Irving, William Begg, Mary Copeland, Catherine Hart, Peter Francis Clarke, Helen Veitch, Sheila Lysaght, Robert Sewell, Mary Ann Corr, Elizabeth McAleer, Mary Catherine Dodd, Mary Ward, Mary Teresa Shortt, Molly Marshall, Michael Smith, Michael Smyth, Catherine Hannah, Elizabeth McCarte, Lily McCarte, John Kirkup, Elizabeth Hagan, Peter Brannigan, Michael Haughey, Mary Batey, Joseph Bell, Norah Lovell, Kathleen Curran, Monica Carey.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Canon Laurence Hollis, Billy Begg, Gerry Clarke, Peter Nicholson, Mamie Golightly, Letitia McKie, Susan McKie.

St. Patrick's: Rose Ann Carlin, Catherine Campbell, Mollie Smith, Theresa Jackson, John Paul Walls, Patricia Osbourne, Kathleen Johnson, Bill Crowther, Peter Davidson, Agnes Allardice, Patrick Gallacher, Michael McNally, Anthony Robson, John Robert McArdle, Tony Gallagher, Susan Boyle, Michael Jones, Charles Edwin Clark, Kathleen Veronica McNally, Joan Readman, Patricia Beattie, Lee John Wiles, Thomas Conroy, Alice McCourt, Catherine Clarke, Terry Reed, Alfie Lister, John McKean, Judith Kennedy.

St Pius: James Bartrope, Peter Francis Clarke, John Henry Glasgow, Timothy Hurn, Donald Jarman, Mrs Martin, Maureen Quinn, John Slane, Jack Steel, Helen Veitch.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Bob Hewitson, Margaret Shannon, Jim O'Neill, Julie Tonks (Cullen), Marian Richardson, Michael Lucy, Margaret Storey, Sarah E. Fountain, Norma Clark, Maria Herdman, Les Slavin, Joseph Liddell Jnr. Andrew Farley, Owen Lee, Terence O'Loughrin, John Walls, Margaret Turnbull, Angela Cox.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We keep in our prayers

St Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Kieran Richard Atkinson, Amelia Burns, Ethan White, James Thomas English, David Sizmy, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Freya Simpson, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Tom Slane, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, David Oliver, Jimmy McGuigan, Catherine Hester, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, Simon Quinn, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Ged Hester, Terry Curran, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Catelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Mary Guy, Joan Whitfield

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reily, Judith Hindmarsh, Geraldine Donnelly, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Sienna Jane McNestry, Austin McDonald

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Keith Elliott, Derek Hicks, Paul Hunt, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr, Jade Telford, Bob Parkin, Muriel Steele, Ethan O'Neil (12 yrs old).

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson

Partnership Prayer

Risen Christ, from your abundant grace,
pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.
As we build on the deep foundations of faith
laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,
by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede
may our Partnerships continue the mission
of building your Kingdom on the earth:
to give living witness to your love,
and to your compassion and hope for our world.
We pray in trustful confidence that your power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Who live and reign forever and ever. Amen

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you, never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.'

Prayer For Ukraine

O God in this time of violence. We call you to draw near.
Draw near to the people of Ukraine.
Draw near to the terrified children.
Draw near to the terrified parents.
Draw near to those who have nowhere to go.
Draw near to the elderly, the infirm,
the disabled, the displaced, the orphans.
Draw near to the care givers and aid workers.
Draw near to the helpers.
Draw near. Draw near. Draw near.
In this time of violence-Draw near.
Jesus taught us that the diabolical evil of violence
is answered with the weapons of God, with prayer and fasting.
May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.